1	2	3	4	5
Jan.	10.85	—	5.14	—
Feb.	9.98	—	4.24	—
Mar.	8.37	—	3.38	—

P-Provisional

(b) to (d) Containment of inflation remains high on the agenda of the Government. Anti-inflationary policies of the Government include strict fiscal and monetary discipline, rationalization of duties of essential items so that there is no undue burden on the poor, effective supply-demand management of essential commodities through liberal tariff and trade policies, and strengthening the public distribution system.

Recovery of credit card loans by banks

†1528. SHRI PYARE LAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite all the guidelines issued by Government and Reserve Bank of India, banks are still recovering their credit card loans through muscle men (recovery on contract);

(b) whether it is also a fact that even State Bank of India (SBI) the most reputed bank in the country is also taking shelter of this means for the recovery of its credit card loans;

(c) if so, the instruction on the basis of which SBI is involved in the said activity alongwith the details of the said contract of illegal recovery; and

(d) if not, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Joint strategy of IMF and WB

1529. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank (WB) are developing a joint strategy to aid low-income countries which would define their separate roles;

(b) if so, whether this plan is intended to help ensure that the efforts of these key institutions remain well-coordinated and consistent, while leverging each institution's resources effectively;

(c) if so, by when a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken; and

(d) to what extent this will help India in reducing the poverty alleviation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (c) Yes, Madam. World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF) have developed a joint strategy to improve coordination on country issues, enhance communications between the staffs of the two institutions working on common thematic issues, and improve incentives and support for collaboration on policies, reviews and other institutional issues. The strategy contributes to clarifying how the Fund and the Bank can work more effectively together, including in low-income countries.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.